

## **TRADE**

### **Poultry and Meat Products**

**Agreement Between the  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and the SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF  
VIETNAM**

Effectuated by Exchange of Letters at  
Hanoi May 31, 2006



NOTE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Pursuant to Public Law 89—497, approved July 8, 1966  
(80 Stat. 271; 1 U.S.C. 113)—

“ . . . the Treaties and Other International Acts Series issued under the authority of the Secretary of State shall be competent evidence . . . of the treaties, international agreements other than treaties, and proclamations by the President of such treaties and international agreements other than treaties, as the case may be, therein contained, in all the courts of law and equity and of maritime jurisdiction, and in all the tribunals and public offices of the United States, and of the several States, without any further proof or authentication thereof.”

**SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM**

**Trade: Poultry and Meat Products**

*Agreement effected by exchange of letters  
at Hanoi May 31, 2006;  
Entered into force May 31, 2006.*



**MINISTRY OF TRADE**  
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

**31 MAY 2006**

The Honorable Karan Bhatia  
Deputy U.S. Trade Representative  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Honorable,

I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between the Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America in connection with our bilateral market access agreement on Viet Nam's accession to the World Trade Organization.

Viet Nam recognizes the United States food safety inspection system for poultry and poultry products and meat and meat products as equivalent to that of Viet Nam. While preserving Viet Nam's rights under the SPS Agreement to protect human, animal or plant life or health in its territory, Viet Nam shall accept the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Export Certificate of Wholesomeness (FSIS Form 9060.5) as assurance that the exported U.S. meat and poultry products have been inspected and passed by FSIS.

The Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America pledge to urge their appropriate agencies to undertake the necessary work to achieve recognition of equivalence for Viet Nam.

Viet Nam and the United States shall consult, at the request of either government, to determine if changes in the inspection system of their respective country would affect the circumstances under which these understandings have been reached.

I have the honor to request that you confirm that your government shares this understanding and have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'T' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Truong Dinh Tuyen  
Minister of Trade  
The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
DEPUTY UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

May 31, 2006

H.E. Truong Dinh Tuyen  
Minister of Trade  
The Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

Dear Minister Truong:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date which reads as follows:

I have the honor to confirm the following understanding reached between the Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America in connection with our bilateral market access agreement on Viet Nam's accession to the World Trade Organization:

Viet Nam recognizes the United States food safety inspection system for poultry and poultry products and meat and meat products as equivalent to that of Viet Nam. While preserving Viet Nam's rights under the SPS Agreement to protect human, animal or plant life or health in its territory, Viet Nam shall accept the United States Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Export Certificate of Wholesomeness (FSIS Form 9060.5) as assurance that the exported U.S. meat and poultry products have been inspected and passed by FSIS.

The Government of Viet Nam and the Government of the United States of America pledge to urge their appropriate agencies to undertake the necessary work to achieve recognition of equivalence for Viet Nam.

Viet Nam and the United States shall consult, at the request of either government, to determine if changes in the inspection system of their respective country would affect the circumstances under which these understandings have been reached.

I have the honor to request that you confirm that your government shares this understanding and have the further honor to propose that this letter and your letter of confirmation in reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments.

I have the honor to confirm that my government shares this understanding and that your letter and this reply shall constitute an agreement between our two Governments to enter into force on this day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karan Bhatia', with a stylized, flowing script.

Karan Bhatia